

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This application is under final rejection. Applicant has presented arguments hereinbelow that Applicant believes should render the claims allowable. In the event, however, that the Examiner is not persuaded by Applicant's arguments, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendment to clarify issues upon appeal.

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated January 18, 2005. Claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, 9-10, 12-13, 15-16, and 18 are pending. All claims are rejected. All claims have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, 9-10, 12-13, 15-16, and 18 remain pending in the present application.

The Examiner maintains his rejection of claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, 9-10, 12-13, 15-16, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McDonald (6053951) and Ahanessians (6401230), as set forth in the Office Action dated March 15, 2004. The Examiner states:

Applicant's arguments filed 6/18/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The summary of the invention is noted. The visual objects recited in the art are not merely associated with a link, but rather relate information as to tasks affected by the wizard. This enables the user to utilize the wizard more efficiently. The claims are recited as broad and do not go into further details....

Applicant respectfully disagrees as to the claims as amended. The Examiner argues that McDonald discloses "providing the wizard when the link is selected comprising a visual object associated with the link". The Examiner further argues that "McDonald et al do not go into the launch pad details, but do show convenient accessing of the wizard... Furthermore, Ahanessian et al show the launch pad comprising a visual object providing information pertaining to a wizard task for convenient accessing of the wizard."

However, the amended independent claims do not recite a visual object associated with the link. With the present invention, the first visual object corresponds to a wizard and is separate from the link associated with the wizard. The first visual object provides information pertaining to a task

performed by its corresponding wizard. Selection of the link associated with the corresponding wizard launches or provides it. The corresponding wizard includes the second visual object associated with the first visual object, where the second visual object provides more information pertaining to the task performed by the corresponding wizard. By providing this information in this manner, the first and second visual objects guide the user to the correct order in which to execute the plurality of wizards and give the effect of each wizard. They are not provided on the launch pad for "convenient" accessing of the wizards, but to assist the user in determining how the tasks performed by the plurality of wizards relate to a larger process.

In addition, neither McDonald nor Ahanessian teaches associating the first visual object on the launch pad with the second visual object on the wizard, both providing information pertaining to the task performed by the wizard, where the second visual object on the wizard provides more information than the first visual object on the launch pad. It is this association between the visual objects that the user is given the visual cues that the information provided by the two visual objects pertains to the same task. With this association, the user is guided to the correct order in which to execute the wizards and given information as to the effect of the wizard. McDonald in view of Ahanessian does not teach this association.

Thus, for these reasons, McDonald in view of Ahanessian does not teach or suggest: providing a plurality of links on a launch pad, wherein each link is associated with one of the plurality of wizards, wherein the launch pad comprises a first visual object corresponding to a wizard of the plurality of wizards, wherein the first visual object is separate from the link associated with the corresponding wizard, wherein the first visual object provides information pertaining to a task performed by the corresponding wizard; and providing the corresponding wizard when the link associated with the corresponding wizard is selected, wherein the corresponding wizard comprises a second visual object, wherein the second visual object is

associated with the first visual object, wherein the second visual object provides more information pertaining to the task performed by the corresponding wizard than the first visual object, as recited in amended independent claims 1, 4, 7, 10, 13, and 16.

Applicant further submits that claims 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, and 18 are also allowable because they depend on the above allowable base claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1, 3-4, 6-7, 9-10, 12-13, 15-16, and 18 are patentable over the cited references. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims as now presented.

Applicants' attorney believes this application in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP



Michele Liu
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 44,875
(650) 493-4540

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Date